civilian air traffic controllers at its airbases particularly in Northern India; and

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) No proposal to accommodate Civil Air Traffic Controllers at Air Force Bases has so far been initiated.

(b) Does not arise.

Under utilisation of minor Airports

2175. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing capacities at most of the minor airports across the country are under-utilised and some such airports have even remained non-operational for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a proposal has been formulated to extend help to small airline operators playing to minor aerodrome to undertake regular operations on the feeder routes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, including steps being taken to provide the requisite infrastructure like passenger amenities, air safety, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 18 non-operational and 15 closed airports belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI). The details are as below:—

Non Operational Airports — Akola, Behala, Bilaspur, Cooch Behar, Cudappah, Deesa, Hadapsar, Jhansi, Kamalpur, Kolhapur, Lalitpur, Malda, Muzaffarpur, Mysore, Passighat, Sholapur, Warrangal and Kailashahar.

Closed Airports — Aizwal, Asansol, Bellurghat, Chakulia, Donakonda, Hassan, Jharsuguda, Jogbani, Khandwa, Khowai, Panna, Raxaul, Rupsi, Satna and Shella.

(c) and (d) No demand/commitment has been received so far from

small airlines operators for operating their scheduled flights through any of the above airports.

Helicopter service in Mumbai

2176. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a helicopter service in Mumbai between Chhatrapati Shivaji Airport and the city;

(b) if so, whether the consent of the residents over noise pollution has been obtained; and

(c) whether they have no objection in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Pawan Hans Helicopter Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Government of India, has a plan to introduce helicopter services between Chhatrapati Shivaji airport and the City Centre near Nariman Point in Mumbai.

(b) and (c) Discussions were held recently with some of the representatives of the Cuffe Parade Residents Association to resolve the matter amicably. However, the residents have not yet given their consent over noise pollution.

New Airport at Nagaland

2177. SHRI C. APOK JAMIR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to further improve air links in the NE Region;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether there has been any proposal from the Government of Nagaland for a new airport; and

(d) if so, what is the progress thereof?